



AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY

Housing: Question on House Heating Fuel (H-13)

FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL USES OF DATA ABOUT HOUSE HEATING FUEL

- The Department of Health and Human Services' Administration for Children and Families uses the data to indicate the type of fuel used by low-income persons and families who are eligible to receive assistance.
- The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) uses the data to assess utility allowances for assisted households paying directly for their utilities.
- HUD also uses the data to identify rental distribution of housing units used to determine Fair Market Rents.
- Utility companies use these data to forecast the need for additional power facilities and utility networks.
- Organizations and governments use these data to educate people about the need for energy conservation.
- State and local governments, faith-based and other non-profit organizations, and businesses use these data to plan, budget, and pay benefits.

EXAMPLES OF LEGAL REQUIREMENTS FOR HOUSE HEATING FUEL DATA

- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program
- Low Income Housing, Title 42, Chapter 8

QUESTION AS IT APPEARS IN THE QUESTIONNAIRE

- 13** Which **FUEL** is used **MOST** for heating this house, apartment, or mobile home?
- ☐ Gas: from underground pipes serving the neighborhood
 - ☐ Gas: bottled, tank, or LP
 - ☐ Electricity
 - ☐ Fuel oil, kerosene, etc.
 - ☐ Coal or coke
 - ☐ Wood
 - ☐ Solar energy
 - ☐ Other fuel
 - ☐ No fuel used

[<www.census.gov/acs/www>](http://www.census.gov/acs/www)



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HISTORY OF THE HEATING FUEL QUESTION

- The question on house heating fuel has been asked since 1940.
- The question also was asked on the Census 2000 long-form questionnaire.

WHY WE ASK IT THIS WAY

The categories reflect the basic sources of heat for residential use. The information collected is about the fuel used most if more than one type is used.

WHAT IS THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY?

The American Community Survey (ACS) is a nationwide survey that collects socioeconomic and housing information and is the planned replacement for the long form in the 2010 Census.

The U.S. Census Bureau plans to conduct the ACS in every county, American Indian and Alaska Native Area, Hawaiian Home Land, and in Puerto Rico, once it is fully implemented, pending Congressional funding. The ACS has been tested across the country since 1996.

HOW CAN I SEE THE RESULTS OF THE SURVEY ?

The information collected from these tests is published on the Census Bureau's Web site at:

<www.census.gov/acs/www>

and American FactFinder at:

<<http://factfinder.census.gov>>

For more information call, e-mail, or visit our Web site:

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<<http://www.census.gov/www/acs>>

U S C E N S U S B U R E A U

Helping You Make Informed Decisions